



EVERY TUESDAY

# CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

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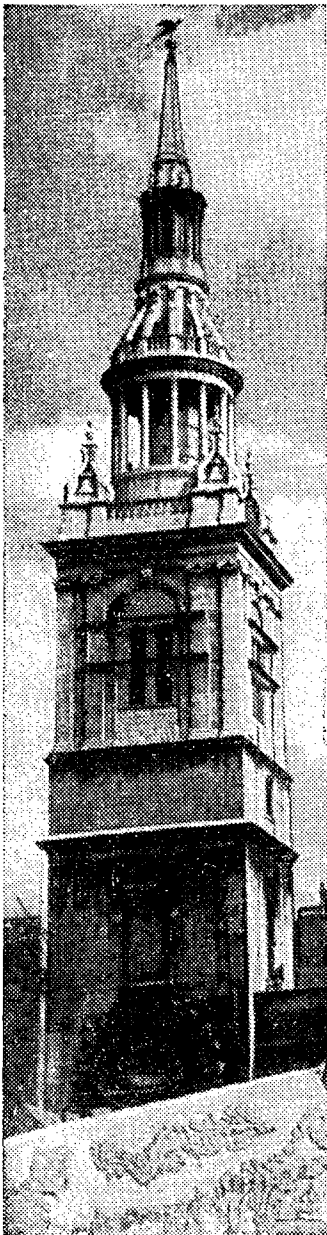
## Reshaping the Old Stones of London

SKILLED stonemasons, working in an improvised yard in a blitzed open space near bomb-damaged Bow Church in the heart of London, are carefully shaping the stones that are to go to the repair of seven London churches. Some of these stones themselves were brought from the debris of bomb-ruined churches.

Many of London's churches are to resume their old shapes, and it is the work of these craftsmen to give each stone its requisite pattern or decoration. This is craftsmanship indeed, for after the stones have been hewn to the required size by the carbundum cutter, all the work is done by hand, most of it with mallet and chisel.

Their task is one of absorbing interest, for they are helping to give London back some of its old beauty.

Our picture shows two of the men on the great pile of broken stones, near the Bow Bells church.



## HEADHUNTERS WHO DEFIED THE JAPANESE

### Do-Wai, the Man Who Chose to Stay in Prison

*As the remoter areas of the world are again visited by British missionaries, many new stories of Christian courage displayed during the war are being recorded. This one comes from the island of Formosa, where Presbyterian missionaries, both from Britain and Canada, have been re-welcomed.*

In the great range of mountains which form the central highland of Formosa live the Tsal people, a head-hunting tribe whose wild habits have for years been a menace to the peace and prosperity of the farmers in the foothills. The Japanese, during their control of Formosa tried all sorts of methods to subdue the Tsals whose tribes, like many others in Formosa, are governed by women chiefs and not men. One of the methods was to cut off their mountain fastness with a strong barrier of electrified barbed wire; but the wily Tsals felled trees, at convenient intervals, which brought down the barbed wire and so gained a free passage down the mountain-sides.

Missionaries found it difficult and dangerous to penetrate into the rugged mountains, rising 12,000 feet above sea level. But one day, before the war, an elderly Tsal woman came into the mission station and asked to hear about the Christian faith. She had a wide band of tattooing across her face from ear to ear to show that she was a married woman, and a deep tattoo cut on her forehead—her tribal identification—and she did not appear a likely pupil.

#### Teaching the Tsals

Knowing the Tsal women's capacity for leadership, however, the missionaries taught her simple things about the Bible and sent her back to her own people. Following her visit came a man named Do-wai, who also went back to his own people as a prophet and teacher. In this quiet, unspectacular manner the Christian faith began to spread among the Tsals to the alarm of the Japanese. On the eve of the war the Japanese ordered the

people to stop their preaching, and when contact with missionaries was cut off they systematically searched the Tsal village huts for Bibles. All Bibles discovered were destroyed, and those families harbouring them were severely beaten. Do-wai, the Christian leader of the people, was imprisoned.

#### Hidden Bibles

Do-wai spent six years in prison, though at any time he could have obtained release simply by speaking the sentence "I will not be a Christian." And, meanwhile, all through the Tsal villages, search for Bibles went on. Rather than give up their faith these primitive tribesmen suffered cruel torture, and one young Tsal died from the beating he received. They hid their Bibles in the forests, in pits dug under trees and under rocks. Finally, an ultimatum was presented to the Tsals—that in three days all Bibles and hymn books must be brought into the police station, and then be torn up by the people themselves and thrown into a bonfire. But in those three days Japan finally surrendered to the Allies and the mountain people of Eastern Formosa were again free to worship as they pleased.

When the first missionary entered a Tsal village after tramping for miles through the foothills he was met by Do-wai, released from prison. He bore the almost incredible news that nearly four thousand Tsals had embraced the Christian faith. Every month during 1947 hundreds of these ex-headhunters have come down from their precipice villages to the mission for baptism, one of the most remarkable movements towards Christianity in recent years.

## DRUMMER BOY



A proud member of the band of London Command Air Training Corps.

## Remembering R.L.S. in Monterey

CALIFORNIA is to restore and preserve as an historical monument the house at Monterey in which Robert Louis Stevenson lived for three months. The dwelling will be used as a museum for documents and other R. L. S. relics.

It was to this house in 1879 that Stevenson came, a sick man with little money in his pocket, having learned that Fanny Osbourne had fallen ill. When travelling in France collecting material for his *Travels With a Donkey* he had fallen in love with her. Later she returned to her native California, and when he received news of her illness Stevenson, still in France, immediately packed his few belongings and travelled steerage across the Atlantic. On his arrival at Monterey, Stevenson himself fell seriously ill and was nursed back to health by Fanny Osbourne, whom he married.

#### Unconquerable Spirit

That brief period spent in California was always remembered with gratitude by Stevenson. Life for him held its full measure of trouble and pain. From his earliest boyhood days at Swanton Cottage in the Pentland Hills and at Edinburgh he was beset by illness, and all his life he remained a semi-invalid. Yet his spirit was unconquerable and, despite his frailty of body, he used his literary talents to the full.

Unfitted for the adventurous life for which he longed, R. L. S. found consolation in writing down the adventures that filled his mind. *Treasure Island*, *Kidnapped*, *Black Arrow*—all are full of excitement and deeds of daring, and we can well understand how the title of *Tusitala* or *Teller of Tales* was bestowed upon him by the natives of the South Seas, among whom he made his home during his last years.

#### The Open Road

All his days the spirit of the open road was in Stevenson's blood, and it is vividly reflected in his song, set so beautifully to music by Vaughan-Williams:

*I will make you brooches and toys  
for your delight  
Of bird-song at morning and  
star-shine at night.  
I will make a palace fit for you  
and me  
Of green days in forests and blue  
days at sea.*

Partly for the sake of his health, partly for the love of it, Stevenson was always travelling, but at last he settled down with his wife at Apia (which he called Vailima—Five Rivers) on one of the islands of Samoa in the Pacific. There in 1894 he died, and there, "under the wide and starry sky," he was buried by the islanders to whom he had so endeared himself.

## Mistaken Identity

HERE'S another of these puzzles, a crate containing livestock with no label," recently said a Customs official at Copenhagen (speaking in Danish, of course) to his colleague.

The other came and squinted into the crate. "A nice dog," he replied, "an Alsatian. I wouldn't mind having him; a good house-dog I'd say, with useful teeth."

They opened the crate and let its occupant out into the Customs house, fed him, found a bit of string and took him for a walk.

Next day someone from the Copenhagen Zoo called and wanted to know what had happened to the wolf they were expecting!

## THIS KIND WORLD

A LOVELY story of the help a group of Indian lepers gave to England is reported by the Mission to Lepers.

Lepers in a Home in the Himalayan foothills heard of the distress and hardship which last winter's floods were still giving to many farmers in England. "Our patients have been very touched," wrote Dr Katherine Young to the Lord Mayor of London, "and asked if they might forgo some of their rations. The enclosed cheque for £6 17s 6d is an expression of their deep concern and love for their friends at home." The Indian Warden of the Home has a little boy aged five who, when he heard of the collection, gave up two annas out of his three annas pocket money.

The Lord Mayor of London wrote a personal letter of thanks to the lepers, who treasure it among the most precious possessions of their Home.



# SIXTEEN EUROPEAN NATIONS HAND-IN-HAND

AFTER so many recent disappointments in international life it is impossible not to regard the unanimous agreement of sixteen European nations at the Paris Conference on the Marshall Plan as an important achievement.

It is a good sign that almost at the same time as Britain starts working on her own great plan to regain prosperity 15 other European nations have linked hands with us to try to help each other as much as possible.

But, as Mr Bevin said in his speech at the final meeting of the Paris Conference, "there is a long road to travel before the economy of Europe is re-established. But this report which we accept... is something more than a mere report. It is the beginning of a great co-operative endeavour."

## A Simple Idea

Co-operation is the key-note of the new life of the European Continent. Indeed, after so many disasters which Europe has suffered it is remarkable that such a simple idea has not found a firmer ground among her nations before. True, many thinkers and statesmen of bygone days have worked for the ideal of a United Europe; but political quarrels and national prejudices have always prevented such unity.

The hope which the Paris report gives to Europe is therefore two-fold; firstly that great economic efforts must be made in common, and secondly that this economic co-operation may bring nearer the political union of the 16 States who signed the Paris report. But, as Mr Bevin said, the road to prosperity in Europe is long.

It is, of course, of great importance to each of us to see what exactly it is that is wanted of us, and where and how the United States comes into the picture. The Paris report gives only the general figures of production which Europe is expected to reach within four years. How will this scheme affect our lives and the lives of our neighbours across the sea?

Our own country, for example, is going to throw into the European pool more coal. It has already been made known that

in 1948 we hope to export (for the first time since 1939) some six million tons of coal. In 1951 this may be increased to nearly 30 million tons. Considering the very great demand for coal by our home industries, this will be a mighty effort and a great contribution to European recovery.

Other countries are to make their own contribution, too. France and Holland and Italy will have to produce more food. Luxembourg will have to fire some of its idle blast furnaces to get more steel on the market. Sweden and Norway will have to offer more timber and paper to countries which need them.

But the economic experts of the 16 nations and of the United States have agreed that this is not enough. Not even the best car, or any other machine for that matter, will move an inch without suitable fuel, without proper lubrication. This is exactly what is happening in Europe now. Our part of the world has a fine industrial machine, first-class workers, and plenty of will to work—but no fuel to set the machine in motion. This "fuel" is to be supplied by the United States, and means food for human beings and animals, machinery for agriculture and mining, and hundreds of other types of capital goods which are short on the Continent and in our own country.

## Europe's Sharing Time

Only with the help of our own strenuous efforts and of the great and costly scheme which will be paid for by the United States can there be any hope for the recovery of Europe.

All this testing time, until 1951, the eyes of the world will be on us, looking for proof of our ability to share and to co-operate. If the nations of Europe succeed in putting the old Continent on its feet again they will have had the finest possible training in international co-operation, and have strengthened the foundations of peace.

## Passing of "The Little Flower"

THERE has passed on a chivalrous knight of our times, Fiorello LaGuardia, former Mayor of New York, the man who, as Director-General of Unrra, averted famine in Europe after the war.

Fiorello LaGuardia was born in New York 64 years ago. His parents were Italian immigrants. He came to be known, by friends and enemies alike, as The Little Flower, the meaning of his first name.

All his life Fiorello was a great champion of Democracy, a friend of the oppressed, and a relentless foe of dishonesty in public life. He became a member of Congress in 1916, and after voting for the US to join in the First World War this little man—he was only five feet two inches tall,

too short for the Army—learned to fly and joined the Air Corps. He fought over the Italian front and won the War Cross.

When he became Mayor of New York he fought ruthlessly against corruption in the City's affairs. This gained him many enemies, but also the love of his fellow-citizens, who named their airport after him.

By far the greatest achievement of his life, however, was his selfless work for Unrra. When President Truman gave him the Medal of Merit for this work he said: "You have won the gratitude of millions in the world who were threatened with starvation."

The Little Flower has faded, but has left a fragrant and enduring memory.

## A New Era For Burma

BURMA'S Constituent Assembly has passed the new Constitution of the Burma Union without a single adverse vote.

A splendid achievement of the constitution builders was their agreement to recognise the Karenni States as semi-independent members of the Burma Union. The gallant Karen people, who inhabit these states, were our staunch friends in the war and it is good to know that their future is secure.

A provisional President, Prime Minister, and Speaker have been elected to carry on Burma's government until the general elections for the new Parliament have taken place. So this war-torn country enters upon a new era in her history.

## TESTS FOR YOUNG CYCLISTS

THE Cycling Safety League and Cycling Proficiency Tests, both for young people, are being launched this week by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents at its Silver Jubilee Congress at Brighton.

Any child owning or regularly using a bicycle can join the Cycling Safety League if undertaking to carry out the pledges on the enrolment form. These are: to study the Highway Code (or a children's version issued by the Society) and to behave on the road in accordance with its principles; to study for and take the Cycling Proficiency Test; to have his or her bicycle inspected regularly; and to receive and profit by instruction in safe cycling. Members wear a League lapel badge.

In order to pass the Cycling Proficiency Test and obtain the certificate and proficiency badge, a candidate must pass an examination in the principles of road safety and courtesy, and another in riding proficiency. The candidate must also show ability to adjust the machine to obtain a good riding position and maintain the bicycle in good order.

There is little doubt that the junior push-bike brigade of Britain will respond to this challenge, and soon be setting an example to older folk as so many young pedestrians are already doing.

## Concerts For Schoolchildren

THERE are to be numerous opportunities for London's schoolchildren to hear first-class music this winter. As well as the Saturday morning concerts for young people, announced in the CN a few weeks ago, the LCC has arranged a programme of 20 concerts for schoolchildren.

These concerts are of two kinds: the first for boys and girls between 12 and 14 years, and the second for pupils over 14. The concerts are being given in school hours and are being conducted by the LCC's Music Adviser, Dr Russell, who, working with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, has chosen the programme so that schools can obtain gramophone records on loan. Boys and girls can thus study in advance the beauties of the works they will hear the famous orchestra play.

## WORLD NEWS REEL

**MOVING PICTURES.** Cinemas are to be set up in air liners of British South American Airways to entertain passengers on long journeys.

The Government of South Australia is endeavouring to obtain 100 women teachers from Britain. It is hoped that some of the teachers will be in Australia for the first term of 1948.

**Sheffield is to receive 200 food parcels a month from Sir Frank Mappin of Auckland, New Zealand, whose family came from Sheffield.**

**OUR MINERS LEAD.** According to the European Coal Organisation, British miners in July still produced the largest output of coal per shift of European miners. The British output per shift was 91 per cent of the pre-war average.

The Canadian Minister of Labour has reported that at employment service offices in Canada, not long ago, the jobs available outnumbered applicants for work by 33,000.

A new international medical society called the World Medical Association has been established with headquarters in North America.

A group of British mining experts left London recently for Borneo, where they are to investi-

gate coal deposits in Sarawak, Brunei, Labuan, and British North Borneo.

**GOING UP.** Last July, British European Airways carried 69,602 passengers, 14,042 more than in June.

A world-wide appeal for contributions to help children in devastated countries has been announced by the European director of the United Nations Appeal for Children. The International Children's Emergency Fund has calculated that more than 750 million dollars will be needed.

The International Civil Aviation Organisation has approved a new code for supplying information about the weather for international air services. The new code provides standard symbols based on figures arranged in groups of five.

It was estimated that not long ago 4 million refugees were moving in the Indus valley. They were Hindu refugees from Pakistan and Moslem refugees from India.

The Cyprus Airways Limited has been formed to run services between Cyprus and Greece, Egypt, and Turkey, with the prospect of running later to the Levant and Rhodes. Aircraft used will be De Havilland six to eight seaters.

## HOME NEWS REEL

**ABOUT 3d.** No silver, cupronickel, or 12-sided threepenny pieces have been struck at the Royal Mint this year. Since 1937 the number of 12-sided threepenny pieces issued is about 450 million.

According to official estimates, the total population of the United Kingdom at the beginning of this year was 48,016,000, of whom 22,493,000 were males.

At the end of August wireless licences in Great Britain and Northern Ireland numbered 10,890,540, including 23,150 television licences.

**CAT CAPERS.** At Laindon in Essex a cat climbed a telegraph pole and walked the wires for some distance before it lost its nerve and had to be rescued.

Schoolchildren, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, and other youth organisations have been asked by the Ministry of Agriculture to collect acorns and beech mast to sell to local pig and poultry keepers.

**CAR EXPORTS.** If the motor industry continues to export for the rest of the year at the rate it achieved in the first seven months, it will earn £72,000,000 of foreign exchange for the country, compared with £17,000,000 in 1938.

## YOUTH NEWS REEL

**MAKING FRIENDS.** During the summer some 170 British Scout Groups camped with Groups in Holland, Switzerland, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Norway, Denmark, and Sweden; and many Scouts from these countries came to Britain.

Although unable to swim, Cedric Harries, a ten-year-old Wolf Cub of the 1st Swansea Valley Wolf Cub Pack, rescued a small girl from drowning in a pond at Ystalyfera, Breconshire. He has received a Letter of Commendation from the Chief Scout.

With £50 made from the sale of 14,000 jam jars which they collected from house to house, boys of the 2nd Sudbury Troop of Boy Scouts have built a new headquarters on the site of the original one, which was bombed.

Nicotine gas has been pumped over hundreds of acres of brussels sprouts and cabbages at Evesham, Worcestershire, in order to kill the aphid blight attacking the vegetables.

At Bunwell, in Norfolk, a drake has been sitting on a clutch of 16 duck eggs.

So great is the demand for entry into Manchester University that every inch of space in the buildings is being pressed into service to accommodate the record number of 5000 students.

**WHERE'S JACK?** Beans 30 inches long and as thick as a man's wrist have been grown in the back garden of Mr Henry Pearce, of Wood Green, London, from an Australian bean.

Northumberland is to have a teacher to visit boys and girls who are likely to be in hospital for a long time.

**FINE!** Finding that people had scribbled their names and addresses on the wall of the 14th-century post office at Tintagel, the National Trust wrote to some of them and has received 12 replies, all sending apologies and also five shillings, as suggested by the Trust, to cover damage.

**A PENNY EACH.** Guides throughout the Empire are contributing towards a wedding present for Princess Elizabeth. Contributions are limited to a penny from an individual or 3d from a Guide or Ranger Company or Brownie Pack.

The Committee of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is now meeting in London. Members come from Belgium, Brazil, Czechoslovakia, France, Holland, Poland, Sweden.

When a lorry filled with about 30 hop-pickers fell into the River Rother in Kent, Donald Money, aged 15, of the 7th Chislehurst Company, Boys Brigade, was thrown clear into the water. He swam with a small girl to the bank and then ran 200 yards to a POW camp to summon help.



## Gold in the Hills of Wales

It may come as a surprise to many to learn that Welsh gold is being included in Princess Elizabeth's wedding-ring. But both Queen Mary and her daughter, the Princess Royal, were married with rings of Welsh gold. The yield of gold from Welsh rocks, though small, is not merely the product of modern mining. The Romans, who worked lead and iron here and burned British coal, were the first to mine Welsh gold. There still remain traces of watercourses that they diverted for the work, and of aqueducts that they constructed to convey water to the scene of their gold-mining ventures. The mining of gold in Wales never ceased for long; it is a romantic story

running like a precious thread through the history of the Welsh centuries, and woven into many a tradition and legend.

Closer to our own time, in the seventies of last century John Bright and some of his enterprising associates extracted gold worth £300,000, in the Dolgelly district; and during the latter part of the century precious metal to a value of £380,000 was mined in Merionethshire.

Maybe there is much more treasure waiting to be won, for those who are supposed to know assert that Wales still has gold in a northerly area extending over 250,000 square miles. Whether the metal would pay for the getting is, however, quite another question.

## Farms by Rail

THREE complete farms were recently moved by rail on the G.W.R. Only the farm buildings were left behind; everything else, animals, poultry, implements, tractors, cars, corn, machinery, furniture, and so on went by train.

When Mr Holbrook's farm was moved from Balderton Cheshire to Leominster three trains were necessary.

A special train travelled between the cows' evening and morning milking times to take Mr Pirie's farm from Kingsbridge, Devonshire, to Tisted, near Alton in Hampshire.

Another special train took Farmer Edwards and his 107 cattle from Llantarnam in Monmouthshire to West Grinstead in Sussex, which to the cattle must have seemed a long way east of familiar pastures.

## VIP

PENZANCE Fire Brigade sent a five-ton fire-engine 16 miles the other day to rescue a cat that had climbed up a tree and could not get down.

The cat, which lived at Hayle, had climbed to a height of 45 feet and was far out of reach of any builder's ladder. Afraid to come down it had been in the tree 24 hours, when somebody thought of sending for the fire brigade. The nearest brigade with extension ladders was Penzance, and they sent their pump escape, a five-ton vehicle, and its team, on the 16-mile journey to rescue puss.

A Very Important Puss!

## Children's Church

CHILDREN between the ages of seven and seventeen have played a great part in building a Children's Church at Weston-super-Mare.

This Children's Church has been holding services in a Weston mission room since 1943 under the leadership of Miss E. Monday and Miss J. Williams.

Generous gifts enabled the children to buy two houses with a large brick building at the rear. This building has been converted, and rents from the houses cover the charges on the site of the church.

Mr A. Taylor, the builder who directed the work free of charge, said: "It amazes me to reflect on how much the children have done themselves. They regularly worked during school holidays, and on Saturdays and evenings, and have helped in hundreds of ways."

## SAFETY MODEL

POLICE-SERGEANT G. E. STEPHENSON, of Leeds, has devoted his spare time during the last 12 months to making a miniature model village so constructed as to bring home the dangers of the road vividly to the minds of boys and girls. It is being shown at the Leeds Police safety exhibition.

## Young Playgoers

THE Children's Theatre Limited, which is associated with Glyndebourne, is presenting Clifford Bax's play, *The Immortal Lady*, for London Secondary schoolboys and girls this month.

The L.C.C. is arranging for this and other plays to be presented for boys and girls as part of their school course, and performances will take place at 10.15 a.m. and 2 p.m. The scheme will cost £11,146 and will enable about 93,000 London children to see a real play on a stage. The Young Vic Company is presenting plays as well as the Children's Theatre.

*The Immortal Lady* is being performed this week, from October 6 to 10, at Toynbee Hall; at the Grand Theatre, Clapham Junction, from October 14 to 17; and at the Town Hall, Greenwich High Road (October 20 to 24).

The other plays in the series are *Everyman* (traditional), *The Shoemaker's Holiday* by Dekker, and *André Obey's Noah*.



**Bored**

The puppy's huge yawn suggests that he is tired of trying to get the dignified Great Dane to play with him.

## Coaching the Coaches

YOUNG sportsmen and women who are anxious to improve their skill at football, hockey, tennis, cricket, and so on, often cannot find anyone in their districts capable of coaching them. The Ministry of Education, therefore, has decided to make a grant towards providing local coaches for amateur sportsmen.

Regional coaches will be first appointed and about 80 per cent of their salaries will probably be paid by the Ministry. These regional coaches will train suitable persons to become coaches in their various localities.

Arrangements have already been made for the Amateur Athletic Association to appoint three "coaches of the coaches." More information about the scheme can be obtained from the A.A.A., Chancery Lane, W.C.2.

## ALWAYS ON TIME

MR T. HOLLOWAY, of Faversham, Kent, has just retired after 50 years of work as an engine driver. He leaves with a wonderful record behind him, for during all those years of service he was never once late for work.

## Making Rain to Order

THE spraying of low clouds with frozen carbonic acid—the so-called "dry ice"—to bring rain to parched crops has already met with moderate success in some countries.

Better results have now been obtained by the use of electricity. Professor Gurder, under whose direction the experiments took place, has caused heavy rainfall in several places in the Soviet Union.

Even on a warm summer's day, when everything seems quite dry, the air still contains a few grains of water per cubic foot. This percentage of water may increase very considerably without rainfall, and to cause a shower artificially it is necessary to

disperse electrically-charged particles.

Dust particles, charged with electricity, are sprayed from an aeroplane. These attack the negatively-charged water particles and combine with them to form drops which fall earthwards as rain. In this way, a rainfall of 45 minutes' duration was obtained over an area of about one square mile.

Another method tried by Professor Gurder uses short radio-waves. A small artificial thunderstorm was produced, and rain fell in large quantities. It was a remarkable phenomenon, for all around was blue sky. Thus has man gone a little way towards controlling the weather.

## WELL DONE!

PAMELA ANN ROSE, 17-year-old daughter of a Cornish policeman, has just passed the Cambridge School Certificate Examination without ever having been to school.

Owing to a spinal ailment, Pamela has never even been able to walk, and her mother gave her her first lessons. She was keen to learn and took a correspondence course. She studied for the School Certificate examination, and not only has she passed, she has obtained four distinctions and two credits.

## The Barber Calls

THE barber, and his shop, calls on many villages in the Stratford-on-Avon area.

Mr D. Hemming, who was formerly in the R.A.F., has an old Air Force trailer set up as a complete hairdressing saloon—including electrically-driven clippers. It is towed by a 10 h.p. car. Many of the villages being without a barber, Mr Hemming thought he would be carrying out a much-needed service if he started a travelling shop, for some villagers have had to travel six or seven miles to get a haircut.

For his electricity the travelling barber carries a length of cable, the end of which he plugs into the supply of a nearby farm or inn.

## Good For the Geese

A FRIEND of the C.N., who is working at an orphanage in Hungary, writes of a hurricane there just as the barley harvest was ready to be brought in.

The wind scattered the barley over a wide area and the grain fell out from the sheaves. This was a sad loss, but it had its compensations, for "now all the geese in the district go out day after day to gobble up the scattered seeds, and this is a great boon, as barley is dear to buy."

So the geese, which are important items in Hungary's farm life, are getting fattened more cheaply than usual, and what farmers have lost on the barley they are gaining on the geese.

## RAIL CRAFTSMEN

RAILWAYMEN and their families are great people for handicrafts and they are displaying their skill at the G.W.R. Arts and Crafts Exhibition which is being held at Swindon this week, from October 6 to 11.

Here these railway folk show what they can do in the way of painting, sculpture, photography, needlework, leatherwork, woodwork, model, and rug, and toy making. The painting and sketching classes at the Exhibition are the most popular and over 250 entries have been received for these.

The stationmaster, the porter, the guard, the signalman, and the engine-driver, all who shepherd us on our way along the iron road, are often artists and craftsmen in their spare time.

## A Grand Ship Retires

AFTER 22 years of active service, HMS Nelson is making her last voyage. She has been placed on the retired list, and will be held in reserve or be scrapped. With her sister battleship, HMS Rodney, she will lie at anchor at Rosyth until her fate has been settled by the Admiralty.

The ending of the Nelson's active life recalls many a memory of her wartime exploits. In 1939 and 1944 she was mined, and in 1941 she was torpedoed; yet not a single member of the crew was lost throughout the war. She assisted in the bombardment of the Normandy coast, the Italian armistice was signed on her decks, and she received the Japanese surrender off the coast of Penang.

Now, like the old Warspite and the Rodney, HMS Nelson has had her day—a great day!

## Minor Road—How a School Teaches Road Sense



SOME of the parents and pupils of a school at Orpington in Kent have spent their week-ends and spare time during the past two summers constructing a model road-system in the school grounds. It consists of more than 1000 feet of concrete roadway, and is being used to instruct the

children in the correct use of roads and pavements, and to give them "road sense" as pedestrians, cyclists, or, later on, as motorists.

The scheme originated with a suggestion by the headmaster, Mr E. W. Stevens, to the Parents Association, who adopted it as a

thankoffering for victory and peace.

The picture shows a teacher posting boys to various points of the model road system with amusing variations of traffic signs, including a picture of that well-known but legendary character, Major Road.





### Vitamins From the Hedgerow

These boys and girls of Deerhurst village, in Gloucestershire, are among the many throughout the country who have responded to the appeal to gather rose hips from the hedges. The hips are used to produce rose-hip syrup for infants.

## NEW LIFE FOR AN ANCIENT LAND

AIRCRAFT have been surveying that desolate region of Syria through which the River Euphrates runs.

The survey has been carried out for the Syrian Government by the Air Survey Company as part of a scheme to harness the historic Euphrates to provide a better water supply for the city of Aleppo in the dry season. It is also proposed to build a dam across the river in order to irrigate the barren lands between the Euphrates and Aleppo, and to obtain electric power.

Today there are few inhabitants in the treeless rocky valley through which the Syrian Euphrates flows, and on both sides of which stretches a dreary desert. But the valley is rich in relics of ancient times. The few peasants today raise water for irrigation by age-old methods. The oldest of these consists of piers of masonry running out into the river, sometimes from both banks at once. These walls raise the stream enough to turn the huge primitive wheels to which crude earthenware buckets are attached. As these crazy old

wheels turn, the buckets pour what is left of the water into a channel on top of the masonry, whence it runs to the patches of melons, rice, cotton, tobacco, liquorice, and durra. Another method of drawing water for irrigation is by lowering skins which are drawn up full by oxen.

This long-neglected valley, where only the whispering of the river and the creak of the peasant's water-wheel disturb the silence, is haunted with the memories of ancient battles, of soldiers in shining helmets, of conquerors and merchants in past ages.

For many years it divided the Assyrian and Hittite empires; it formed the boundary of the Roman Empire. All along its banks are the ruins of castles which defended its crossings where in distant ages traders came bringing the wealth of the East to Europe. At Kalaat Dibse is the crossing used by Cyrus and by Alexander.

Now modern man comes in aeroplanes to begin the work of making the Euphrates give life and health to future generations.

## A Giant With an Appetite

It has long been our practice to preserve rare wild birds and to fix the seasons when salmon may be caught. Little did the old-time hunters of the whale dream that similar restrictions would be placed on the activities of the men who search the oceans in quest of these mightiest of mammals. But scientists of several countries have informed their Governments that unless whales are to be exposed to the risk of extinction, or to reduction in numbers too serious for recovery, not more than 16,000 of them should be caught in a single season.

With worldwide shortage of fats and oils, the temptation to increase the catch of these giant bearers of such substances is hard to resist, but fortunately science takes long views, and bids us restrict our activities now lest we bankrupt the time to come. It may seem that the welcome of

whale meat to our tables has some influence on the demand; but it is the scores of thousands of tons of oil and fat that industry chiefly needs.

Most people who have eaten whale meat are thankful for it as an addition to current short commons. But one young lady shrank with horror when asked to partake of some recently. "Surely, whales eat men, do they not?" she asked with a shudder. Great was her relief on learning that the giants we are concerned with live on multitudes of small crustacea, shrimp-like things that crowd the seas.

However, the whale's cousin, the grampus, known as the "killer whale," a creature from 20 to 30 feet long, would eat men if it had the chance. It is a creature with a gigantic appetite. One on being captured was found to have swallowed for its latest meal 13 porpoises and 14 seals!

## The One-Man Band

DRIVEN out of Germany by the Nazis seven years ago, Paul Hindemith, a famous German composer, has again been enjoying a season in Europe, welcomed again where he was derided and despised and his life in danger.

This distinguished musician has had great success as a teacher in America, where they think it wonderful, something unique, that each of his pupils at Yale has learned how to play every instrument in the orchestra.

That is a wonderful accomplishment, of course, and we are reminded of a 19th-century English boy, a military bandmaster's son, who taught himself to play everything the bandsmen used, from trombone to triangle. The name of this boy was Arthur Sullivan!

Sir Arthur Sullivan always counted that early familiarity with varied musical instruments as an invaluable aid to him in his own orchestral compositions. He was, indeed, in those days a sort of "one-man band," though not of the sort commonly known by that name.

The true one-man band was a perambulating wonder. Strapped to his back was a big drum, beaten by a drumstick fixed to his right elbow. On his head was a brass helmet, with cymbals, clashed by a flexible wire running from the back of his heel. In front hung an assortment of instruments, each of which was played in turn, held to the mouth and blown successively. Any shortcomings in harmony, and often they were many, were compensated for by enthusiasm and ingenuity—and by the fact that it was all great fun.

### Two Sentries



US sailors photograph a kilted Greek guard in Athens.



A sentry in old uniform interests girls during a display by the Middlesex Regiment.

## The Editor's Table

### EUROPE'S HOPE

NO document has ever crossed the Atlantic which is more momentous than the one recording Europe's response to America's offer of help. Its importance lies not only in the encouraging signs of America's concern about Europe, but because, as Mr Bevin said, "it represents the forging of links between the countries of Europe which time will strengthen." America's offer has compelled European nations for the first time since the war ended to act in co-operation, which in itself is an immense step forward.

THE report now being considered in Washington is a report of how much Europe can do to help herself. "We do not ask charity," said Mr Bevin, and in sending that word across the Atlantic our Foreign Minister speaks for everyone who believes that the best way of securing other people's help is by first showing what you yourself can do. Each of the sixteen nations which have signed the report has said how much she can export abroad and how much help she really needs to keep her life going; moreover, each has pledged herself to make her share of the report come true.

NOTHING will touch the hearts of the great American people more than the revelation of actual life in Europe, of which the report is the hard economic substance. It is now undeniable that this once wealthy and prosperous continent is poor and threadbare. Two wars have drained its resources, have laid waste its reserves. Without assistance Europe cannot recover, and that assistance must come soon or the people of Europe will sink permanently into a degrading poverty which will drag down civilisation.

AMERICA holds the key to Europe's recovery, and the millions of people on this side of the Atlantic are sustained by hopes of a speedy response by a generous people who have never refused the call of humanity.

Through agony and suffering the nations are at long last learning to plan and act together. Europe's response to America's offer is the second big stage on the road of world co-operation, and we await with confidence the reply of America.

### The Patient Hand

MY serious son! I see thee look First on the picture, then the book. I catch the wish that thou couldst paint The yearnings of the ecstatic saint. Give it not up, my serious son! Wish it again, and it is done. Seldom will any fail who tries With patient hand and steadfast eyes, And woos the true with such pure sighs. W. S. Lander

### The Pledge

ABOVE the fear and terror which sweep across some areas of northern India we can greet the peace pledge which the Dominions of India and Pakistan have now made with one another. "Any conception of conflict," it says, "between India and Pakistan is repugnant not only on moral grounds but because any such conflict will result in disaster."

A long, hard road lies in front of the people of the new Dominions, but this peace pledge heralds the broad hope that if partition remains the two may dwell always in peace, with a frontier not guarded by the might of armed forces by the mutual honour and respect of the two peoples.

### DOG-EARED?

THERE are still far too many people who do not look after books in a fitting way. The librarian of the Doncaster Public Library has reported that large numbers of the library books have been chewed by puppies.

### The Greatest of These

A WONDERFUL example of Christian love has been made by Mr James Waite of Hebburn, County Durham, a Salvationist, who has offered one of his eyes to give sight to a woman who has been blind for 17 years.

Specialists have said they can restore sight to Miss Edith Ellerby of Burnage, near Manchester, but they must have a blue eye for the operation. Mr Waite, who is 44 and the father of eight children, has blue eyes. He has volunteered to make the sacrifice.

Now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

### JUST AN IDEA

As Rousseau wrote, Temperance and labour are the two true physicians of man.

## Under the E



PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If the man who files his letters keeps them short

A MAN says money bores him. It should give him interest.

A DOCTOR is tired of telling people brown bread is good for them. They don't take it in.

A VISITOR to London is said to be an authority on rubber. Ought to have plenty of bounce.

SOME people do not like to sleep on the ground floor. Find it a bit hard.

A BEGINNER is nervous when he first sees a skating rink. He gets over it.



## Hands Off!

A LITTLE warmth, a little light, wrote George Du Maurier. But in these times let it be only a little.

Think twice before you switch on an electric light or fire. Unnecessary use of electric current means less for industry, a greater consumption of coal, and the slowing-up of our national recovery.

It is so easy to switch on. But in such a matter as electric power we cannot afford extravagance. Everybody must help to save electricity. So, it's Hands off the switch!

## Visits to the Cinema

ACCORDING to Board of Trade figures about two out of every three of Britain's school-children, and one out of every three of her adults, go to the cinema once a week or more. A little more than a quarter of Britain's adults never go to see the films. Women go slightly more often than men.

We spend over £100,000,000 each year on cinema-going, and the average price paid for a seat is 1s 9d.

These figures indicate the immense popularity of the cinema and consequently its power for good or evil. Great, indeed, is the responsibility of the Men of the Movies.

## Car Without Wheels

ONE of the quaintest names we have ever come upon is the one belonging to a native of the Gilbert Islands who is personal servant to the District Officer for Funafuti.

It appears that on the day he was born the people on his native island saw their first car; and his parents, evidently wishing to keep in step with modern trends, decided to call their baby—Mota Car! That was many years ago, but we gather that Mota Car is still in excellent running order.

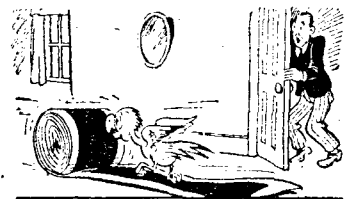
## ditor's Table

A MAN should always be on top of his job. But if he is a motor mechanic he may be underneath it.

A FOOTBALL referee pulled out a player's tooth during a game. It was a draw.

A SCHOOL near London consists of wooden huts. But it isn't a boarding school.

A CORRESPONDENT suggests that all eating houses should be closed. Until they stop eating.



A MAN was astonished when his parrot laid an egg. He would have been more astonished if it had laid a carpet.

## THINGS SAID

EVEN more serious than the physical sufferings and changes experienced by the greater part of the civilised world is its spiritual and mental sickness.

*The Archbishop of York*

AMERICANS cannot be expected to make sacrifices unless there is full co-operation abroad.

*Mr Herbert Hoover*

AUSTRALIA's expected bumper harvest will be reflected in appreciably larger shipments to Britain.

*Australian Minister of Agriculture*

THE post offices of Britain are crowded every Friday with men and women queuing up for postal orders to pay for their previous week's losses.

*Sir Francis Joseph, on football pools*

## IT'S AN ILL WIND

THOUGH, not unnaturally, hundreds of thousands of motorists have bemoaned the loss of their basic petrol ration, at least one good thing should result: the toll of the roads should decrease considerably; fewer cars on the roads should mean less risk to human life and limb.

The petrol cuts must not, however, lead to complacency among the remaining drivers and the pedestrians. If the utmost care is still shown by all road-users we stand an excellent chance of seeing the lowest casualty lists for a very long time.

## In Realms of Harmony

MY soul is an enchanted boat, Which, like a sleeping swan, doth float Upon the silver waves of thy sweet singing; And thine doth like an angel sit Beside the helm conducting it, Whilst all the winds with melody are ringing,

It seems to float ever, for ever, Upon that many-winding river, Between mountains, woods, abysses, A paradise of wildernesses! Till, like one in slumber bound, Borne to the ocean, I float down, around, Into a sea profound, of ever-spreading sound. Meanwhile, thy spirit lifts its pinions In music's most serene dominions, Catching the winds that fan that happy heaven.

And we sail on, away, afar, Without a course, without a star, But by the instinct of sweet music driven; Till through Elysian garden islets By thee, most beautiful of pilots, Where never mortal pinnacle glided,

The boat of my desire is guided: Realms where the air we breathe is love, Which in the winds on the waves doth move, Harmonising this earth with what we feel above. *Shelley*

## WANDSWORTH TO WHITSTABLE

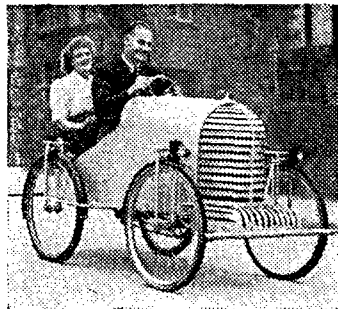
THE people of the London borough of Wandsworth have an admirable peace memorial.

On the suggestion of a former Mayor, Alderman F. T. Jordan, it was decided to commemorate peace by founding a holiday home for Wandsworth children. Within a few months, sufficient funds were raised to purchase a pleasant house in a garden near the sea at Whitstable, in Kent, and there thirty Wandsworth children at a time can now enjoy a wonderful fortnight. Preference is given to orphaned children and to those who would not otherwise be able to have a holiday.

Whitstable people take kindly interest in these little holiday-makers. One of them, for instance, has for some time supplied the Home with an apple a day for each child; and another, known as The Mystery Gift Lady, sends regular supplies of fruit.

Wandsworth's Peace Memorial Home is a scheme we should like to see adopted by other towns who may still be considering worthy ways of commemorating the sacrifices of war and the return of peace.

## Off the Ration



The end of the basic petrol ration does not trouble Mr Dando, of Eastcote, Middlesex, for he can still go for a ride with his wife in his home-made pedal-driven car.

## JUST WILLIAM FILMED

ROUND about Christmas a film of the adventures of Just William, Richmal Crompton's famous character, is to be released. It is to be called, Just William's Luck.

The part of the boy who never seeks trouble but always finds it is being played by a real William. He is William Graham of Darlington, who was selected from over 6000 applicants. He is a cheery, unspoiled lad with an impish grin and a mop of uncontrollable red hair.

William Graham always wanted a theatrical career and got his start when members of the Darlington Hippodrome audience were invited to do a turn on the stage. William performed a dance and this won him the opportunity to go on tour. Later he was recommended for the part of William in the film.

One of William Graham's treasured possessions is a horse-shoe made by his father, who is a railway blacksmith at Darlington. The young film-actor hopes it will bring him a different sort of luck from William's—for whom things never seem to turn out quite as he intended.

## Knight of the Sorrowful Countenance

ALTHOUGH it is 400 years on October 9 since Miguel de Cervantes was baptised at Alcalá, in Spain, the world still laughs at his story of Don Quixote. It is one of the great masterpieces of literature; nowhere, in any language, is there a book quite like it.

In some ways the life of Cervantes was as adventurous as that of his immortal knight. Spain in his day was a formidable world-power, and the high-spirited youth enlisted to seek fame and fortune in the war against the Turks. At the great battle of Lepanto he was severely wounded, and later he served with distinction in Tunis and Italy.

When returning to Spain on leave after five years' honourable service, he was captured off Marseilles by a squadron of Barbary pirates, who demanded a huge ransom that his poor parents were unable to pay. Accordingly, Cervantes was sold into slavery at Algiers to a merchant, Hassan by name, who was notorious for his brutality.

## Many Adventures

Despite his reputation for cruelty, however, Hassan seems to have been impressed by the fearless bearing of the young Spaniard, and he never harmed him, although provoked on many occasions. Time after time Cervantes tried to escape and was caught in the act, and on one occasion when a golden opportunity of escaping alone presented itself he refused because it would have meant several of his fellow-slaves being severely punished.

After Cervantes had endured five years of slavery his family managed to scrape together 300 golden ducats and offered the sum as ransom to Hassan. Hassan, however, demanded 500, and the family was in despair until a benevolent monk took pity on them and raised the required sum by dint of begging from the merchants in the ports.

After such buffetings by fate, Cervantes might well have hoped that fortune would smile on him; but it was not to be—he was destined to spend the rest of his life in poverty. For a time he was employed as a commissary buying provisions for the Spanish fleets, and, indeed, he helped to victual the "Invincible" Armada which was preparing in 1587 to

sail for England in the following year. But he was always short of money and several times was imprisoned for debt.

In 1605, when Cervantes was nearly sixty, Don Quixote appeared. It was an immediate success, although it brought the author little profit. Never was a great book more carelessly produced. Written by fits and starts on any scrap of paper that came to hand, the manuscript was sent to the printers without being revised. Many a time Cervantes laughingly pointed out to his friends the many mistakes in the first edition.

But the story of Don Quixote has in it the stuff of greatness which triumphs over the changes of literary fashions and the passing of the centuries; and the world still laughs at the exploits of the eccentric Knight and the stupid but faithful Sancho Panza.

Cervantes intended the work to be a parody of the old stilted romances of chivalry; but the story outgrew its purpose and finished as a brilliant panorama of Spanish society in the sixteenth century seen through the eyes of a man in whom tolerance and humour had triumphed over bitterness. Two great spirits breathed their last when he died, for he passed away on April 23, 1616, the same day as Shakespeare.

## A New Worcester

ONE by one the great cities of Britain are producing their plans for new roads, buildings, and layouts, to meet modern conditions. Worcester is the latest.

Called an Outline Development Plan, it provides for a by-pass road to take the streams of heavy, long-distance traffic which pass through the heart of the city, also for the freeing of the cathedral precincts from through traffic, and linking them more closely with the river Severn, which flows below the cathedral. New buildings to form a complete civic centre, a shopping centre, a theatre, and a better river frontage are also planned.



THIS ENGLAND Horton Church in Gloucestershire, with the Tudor Manor house



## From Canada to Bethnal Green

### BOOKS FOR THE OLD COUNTRY

THE people of Canada, both young and old, have made a gift of 1500 children's books to Bethnal Green public libraries in London.

This is the result of a report called, *What Are Children Reading?* issued by the Bethnal Green Libraries last year. The report described how young people in Bethnal Green were short of their favourites owing to the destruction of books during the war and the difficulty of printing enough children's books owing to the paper shortage.

The report was read in Toronto by Miss Lilian Smith, head of the boys' and girls' division of the city's libraries. She and the Chief Librarian, Mr C. R. Sanderson, made appeals on the radio and in the newspapers asking Canadian boys and girls to send their books for the young folk of Bethnal Green. Books in great quantities came from schools and from grown-ups and young people. Some of the boys and girls sent their pocket money as well.

Among the books sent to Bethnal Green were 44 copies of Kingsley's *Water Babies*, 34 of Hans Andersen's *Fairy Tales*, 33 of Louisa Alcott's *Little Women*, 21 of Grimm's *Fairy Tales*, and eight of Barrie's *Peter Pan*.

The young readers of Bethnal Green will gratefully remember their Canadian friends.

## FLYING FURNITURE

FURNITURE removals to distant parts are literally in the air. A Croydon removal firm, Ebbutt and Company, is prepared to remove up to three tons of furniture at a time by plane to any part of the world. Several Dakotas are to be used for this long-distance removal service. The firm will collect and deliver in the usual manner, but the main part of the journey will be in flying pantechinons.

## Steps to Sporting Fame



Dr Kevin O'Flanagan, from Dublin, Rugby and Soccer International, has played for London Irish and for Arsenal.



In his schooldays his game was hurling—Gaelic hockey. He says he "picked up Soccer" in Dublin. At 18 he played for Ireland against Norway.

## Kevin O'Flanagan



It was when he went to University College, Dublin, that he became interested in Rugby. Picked for Ireland v England in 1939, war came and there was no match.



In 1946 Dr O'Flanagan set up a record by playing Rugby for Ireland v France on January 27 and Soccer for Ireland v Scotland the following week.

## Where Shelley Dreamed

### A POET'S CORNER OF SUSSEX

WARNHAM COURT near Horsham, close to the village where Shelley was born and lived as a little boy, has been bought by the L C C as a convalescent home for children. Warnham Court is a splendid stone mansion which stands where in Shelley's day there was a farmhouse; it was pulled down in 1800 when Shelley was eight years old. Red deer roam in the park round the mansion.

Shelley himself would have loved the idea of children recovering their health here, for it was in these fields and in this little village of Warnham that he wandered during his own unhappy childhood, and found that joy in Nature which was, for him, to drive out all meaner things.

William Watson, another poet, said that Shelley was nourished on starbeams, air, and dew. Here he found his nourishment; in this gentle countryside he must have stood, a forlorn little boy, and gazed in wonder at the skylark which inspired him later to write those undying lines beginning: *Hail to thee, blithe spirit! Bird thou never wert...*

The children regaining their health and strength in these lovely surroundings will remember that other little boy who spent his childhood here 150 years ago before growing up to become one of the world's greatest poets.

## SINGING TWINS

AMONG the fine voices which resound regularly in the Angel Choir of Lincoln Cathedral are those of two sets of twins—David and John Taylor, 15, and Peter and Michael Rushton, 14. David and John are joint head boys in the cathedral choir. Peter and Michael are joint deputy head boys.

These four boys are rightly proud of the high honour of leading their fellows in the choir of their ancient cathedral.

## A "DINE" FOR THE LADY OF THE MANOR

FARMERS of the little island of Sark in the Channel Islands have once again been ordered by the Lady of Sark to give her one-tenth of their cereal crops.

She is allowed to make this decree as one of her rights as Seigneur, or Lord of the Manor. Other rights allow her to be the only person on the island to have a pigeon cote, or "colombier," and to keep a bitch. Mrs Hathaway, the present Seigneur, may also impose an annual "rente" as well as a chimney tax payable in live chickens!

All these peculiar rights were originally granted to one Helier de Carteret by Queen Elizabeth in 1572. He colonised the island from Jersey, 25 miles away. Some 35 tenants took all their belongings across the sea and found that with hard work the land could be made productive. They built their houses of the granite which forms the towering cliff coastal scenery and a mill was built for their chief. This mill still stands, on the highest part of the island, with its granite lintel carved with the three lozenges of the De Carteret arms and the date for all to see.

The Sark farmer will probably grumble about the "dine," as the levy on the harvest is known, but, being a placid sort of fellow, he will not make too much fuss. He knows that his ancestors were given the land which he works today and possibly feels that in some way the dine is just a small amount of rent which may have accumulated in the past four hundred years.

Farmers and fishermen alike on little Sark stand by their

Dame, and perhaps there has never been a more popular order issued from the Seigneurie than that which forbade motor-vehicles to be imported into the island.

Sark nowadays is a paradise, away from the constant hustle and bustle of streets, with only the clomp-clomp of horses' hoofs on the rough roads and the shrill cries of the 38 children at play outside the only school, to disturb the peace.

## A New Nation in the Caribbean

As a result of a Conference held at Montego Bay, Jamaica, it is probable that a new Dominion of the British Commonwealth will come into being in a few years' time. This Dominion will be one composed of the British West Indies. It may be called the British Caribbean Federation.

The Conference—the assembling of which the C N noted recently—consisted of 23 delegates representing 3,000,000 people of the British West Indies. The delegates agreed to the prin-

ciple of a British Caribbean Federation and have set up a standing committee with headquarters at Barbados to build a plan for establishing the new Federation. This preliminary work is likely to last for four or five years.

The enduring spirit of loyalty and friendship on which our great Commonwealth is founded was well demonstrated at this Conference which, at its ending, passed a resolution of loyalty and allegiance to the King.

## MR MIDSHIPMAN EASY—Final Instalment of Captain Marryat's Great Story of the Sea

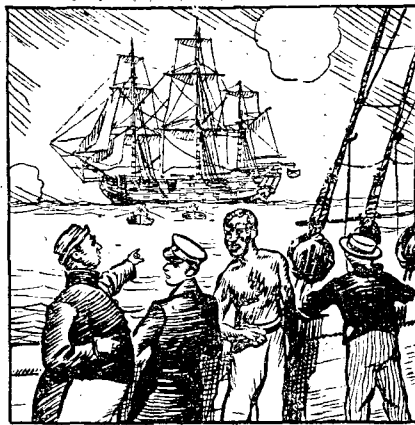
Jack, commanding his own privateer, the *Ribiera*, arrived at Gibraltar. He was anxious to reach Palermo and Agnes, but his men wanted to capture enemy ships

first to get prize money. Jack gave way and sailed up the hostile Spanish coast. Off Malaga they saw many ships at anchor. Jack hoisted an American flag to make

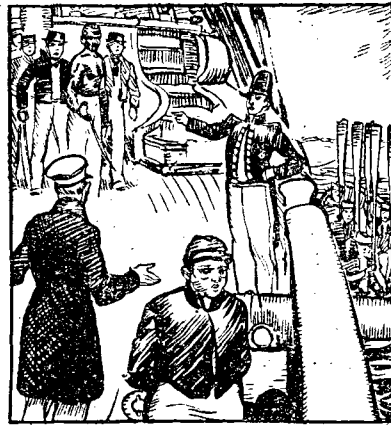
the enemy ashore think he was a neutral. He learned that the vessels close inshore were richly laden, and that all the crews were ashore at a carnival.



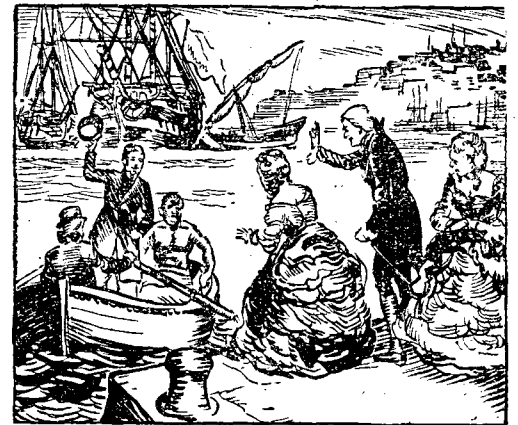
After dark Jack and his men daringly rowed to the harbour. From the town came sounds of revelry. No one challenged them and they swiftly boarded three well-laden and deserted vessels and took them out to the *Ribiera*. Then three gunboats rowed after them, but the Spaniards had forgotten to bring gunpowder, and a broadside made them return.



The *Ribiera* and her prizes escaped. One morning, later, a Royal Navy frigate pursued them. They feared its captain wanted their best men who, as civilians, could be taken by a press-gang. A calm fell, but the frigate sent out two boats. "Our men have the right to resist," said Jack's Lieutenant, "but we officers must take no action."



Mesty and the seamen armed themselves. The officer from the frigate came aboard and demanded ten men. They refused to go. He called up his own men, but after a scuffle they were driven back to their boats. "If the frigate catches us now she will show us no mercy," said Jack's Lieutenant.



A breeze sprang up and the *Ribiera* and her prize sailed away. After dark they gave the frigate the slip and reached Palermo safely. Jack hoisted a blue flag with *Ribiera* in white letters, so Agnes and her family were at the quayside to greet him. Grown into a young man now, Jack married Agnes, and after selling his prizes for a handsome sum, returned to England with her.

Charles Dickens's great story of *David Copperfield*, told in pictures, begins on this page next week



The Children's Newspaper, October 11, 1947

# All-Whites at the Zoo

From Our Own Correspondent

OCCASIONALLY in the Zoo Gardens you will see an entirely white animal, often, though not always, with pink eyes. These are albinos, and very interesting exhibits they are. One of the most important at Regent's Park now is Digger, Mr Winston Churchill's kangaroo, given to him last year by the Stock-owners' Association of South Australia, and visited the other day by Mr Churchill himself.

What exactly albinism is remains something of a mystery. All that scientists can tell us is that, for some reason, the usual pigment, or colouring matter, is lacking in the skin and eyes. But this much is known: the condition occurs throughout the animal world.

Of recent years the Zoo has had several albino animals, including mammals, birds, and reptiles. One of the most striking of these was a python brought from Malaya by its owner. So beautiful was it, that almost everyone who passed through the reptile house paused to admire it.

No less attractive was an albino crow, with snow-white feathers and pink eyes, which was found by a rook-shooting party in Buckinghamshire. And at Whipsnade on one occasion no fewer than three albino willow warblers were hatched in one nest. Many a visitor, I remember, was sorely puzzled by those birds. Most people thought they were freck sparrows, or white wrens. Few guessed their identity correctly, which is not surprising, for albino warblers are very rare.

Except that these all-white individuals are not usually robust, and are often handicapped as regards sight, which is poor, they are in other respects normal. And, personally, I like to see albinos in the Zoo. For, quite apart from their special attractiveness, they are in "a good spot." It is not often realised that the safest place for one of these white-coated creatures—be it mammal or bird—is the Zoo. Wild creatures, living at large in their natural haunts, are all too often intolerant of the individual that is "different," and the hapless albino is frequently cast adrift.

## The All-Blacks

Safely housed in the Zoo, however, these all-white creatures can live out the natural span of their lives, protected from the many disasters which might overtake them if they were left in the wild.

Just as there are animals which are all-white, so there are others which a whimsical Nature has painted all-black. This condition is known as melanism.

A good example of melanism came to the Zoo not long ago. It was an English adder presented by a schoolboy who had come upon it during a country ramble, and who, fortunately, knew how to capture it without getting bitten. The adder was, of course, put on exhibition in the reptile house.

C. H.



# LEAVING IT TO GEORGE

## The Plane Without a Pilot

FOR the first time in history an aeroplane has flown the Atlantic without a human pilot at its controls. It was the American Skymaster aircraft, Robert E. Lee, and though it had men on board, all they did was to press a button to set the Robert E. Lee on its journey from the New World to the Old.

The journey began at Stephenville in Newfoundland, and the crew sat back, read, and talked while their plane flew across the ocean, circled the aerodrome at Brize Norton in Oxfordshire, and then, on its own, made a perfect landing and came to a stop.

This scientific miracle was brought about by the Robert E. Lee's electronic automatic pilot, which was aided by radio beams sent from ground stations. This automatic pilot is a very-much-advanced version of our old friend "George," as the automatic pilot used in the war was called by the R.A.F.

George is growing up and assuming new responsibilities. It receives instructions before starting which it "remembers" and carries out during the flight. All it asks is a wireless hint from the earth now and then to help it keep the plane on exactly the right course.

## Press-Button Flying

There is something a little breath-taking about the new George. Consider what it did after its button was pressed at Stephenville. It set the plane's engines going, after the take-off raised the undercarriage, then set off on the right course. It landed at Brize Norton by flying along the radio-beam path, automatically lowered the landing-wheels, and, when they took the plane's

weight on the ground, applied the brakes.

How was it done? Many of us have heard of a cunning electric bedside gadget which, at a required time, boils a kettle, makes a cup of tea, then sounds an alarm to wake us up. All we have to do is to set it for the required time overnight. Similarly, the new automatic pilot has to be carefully "set" to carry out all its functions at the right times and places.

## The Gyro-Compass

The latest George weighs about 800 lbs and probably incorporates the gyrosyn, a new kind of gyro-compass which is being developed by the British and American Sperry companies. Elmer Ambrose Sperry, an American who died in 1930 at the age of 69, was the inventor of a gyro-compass. This sort of compass is the foundation of the marvellous automatic pilot.

In 1924 the liner Berengaria was crossing the Atlantic automatically steered by Sperry's gyro-compass which floated in a bath of mercury. In 1933 Wiley Post, the famous airman, used an automatic pilot in the first non-stop, single-handed flight from New York to Berlin.

It was in 1935 that the C.N. told its readers of a German invention to enable airmen to land safely in fog by means of wireless signals. The pilot, then, listened with earphones to the signals which told him whether he was to the right or left, above or below, the radio-beam "path" to the ground. Now the automatic pilot is fitted with mechanism to receive these signals and adjust the plane's angle of descent accordingly.

The George that flew the Robert E. Lee marks another stage in Man's mastery of the air. Let us pray that it will always be put to peaceful uses.

## Your Own Tartan

WE have all heard of those visitors to Scotland who painstakingly search in remote corners of their family tree for the right to wear a Highland tartan. Now, in an Enterprise Scotland publication, Lord Provost Harrison, of Elgin, has put the cat among the pigeons by declaring that anyone has the right to invent and design his own tartan.

"Any man, at any time," he writes, "has the right to invent and adopt a design for himself and his family, and his pattern is quite as genuine as some chief's tartan that can be traced through generations of use."

In support of his statement, Lord Provost Harrison points out that a new school or club has every right to choose its own colours without any objection being made, and that Sir Walter Scott's opinion that most of the tartan designs owed their origin "to the mercantile ingenuity of the Edinburgh merchants" is probably about right.

## BEDTIME CORNER

### My Doll

BETTY is a lovely doll,  
Her hair is golden brown.  
She is a little country doll  
But sometimes goes to town.  
And then we dress her up so grand  
In silks and satins gay:  
She loves to see the crowds  
go by  
And hear what people say.

Eleanor Moore, age 8

### A Prayer

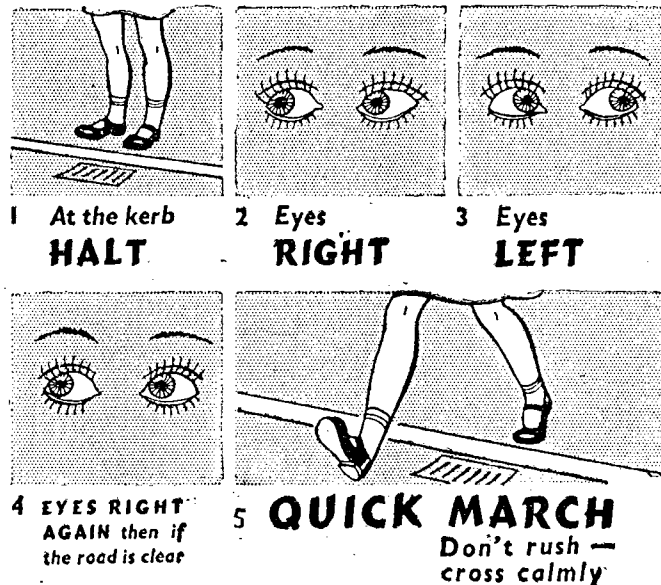
DEAR Father, keep me  
through this day  
Obedient, kind, and true;  
That, always loving Thee, I  
may  
Seek all Thy will to do.

## DADDY'S CALLING!



# Learn this simple KERB DRILL

Teach it to the Children — always do it yourself



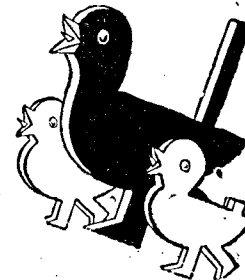
**Keep Death  
off the Road**

Issued by the  
Ministry of  
Transport.

R2

# BIRD'S CUSTARD

*Best known —  
best liked*



BIRD'S CUSTARD AND JELLIES



## THE BRAN TUB

### LOST AND FOUND

**A**BSENT-MINDED professor: "I've left my hat behind."  
Friend: "No, you haven't. It's on your head."

Professor: "Thanks very much. If it had not been for you I would have gone home without it."

### JUMBLED MOUNTAINS

**I**F the letters of each of the following phrases are properly rearranged, they will spell the names of six famous mountains, some volcanic, in various parts of the world.

I COAX POT      SERE VET  
ON DOWNS      O KICK US SO  
PLOT TOP PACE      MAJOR KILIAN

Answer next week

### RENDING

**A** CLEVER inventor at Shoreham  
Made brown-paper gloves,  
and he wore 'em;  
They looked strong and neat  
As he walked down the street,  
But when raising his hat, then  
he tore 'em.

### Blaming the Bard

**E**DITOR: "A very neat phrase, to be sure; but I seem to remember it in Shakespeare."

Author: "What a nuisance that man is. He is always stealing my best thoughts."

## Jacko and Chimp to the Rescue



**A** STIFF breeze had whipped Uncle Chimp's hat from his head and deposited it on a tree in the middle of the park lake. Then Jacko and Chimp had one of their "bright" ideas. They "borrowed" the park-keeper's wash-tub and punted across to the island. Then the Park-keeper and his wife saw what was happening, and while Uncle Chimp danced with glee they danced with rage. In fact, they danced so vigorously that Jacko and Chimp thought it wiser to land on the far side of the lake!

### Other Worlds

**I**N the evening Jupiter is low in the south-west. In the morning Saturn and Mars are in the south-east. The picture shows the moon at 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, October 11.



### FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

**G**uardian of the Rickyard. In the rickyard Don saw a slender brown creature about eight inches long. Its tail was a miserable affair, being little thicker than a pencil and quite short. The animal's eyes glittered fiercely when it saw Don, and it darted under one of the stacks.

"There's a weasel in the rickyard," Don told Farmer Gray. "I'm very pleased to hear it," replied the farmer.

"But they're cruel little things," protested Don.

"Weasels are good friends to farmers," retorted Farmer Gray. "They destroy vast quantities of rats and mice and those rascals eat large amounts of grain which we can ill afford to lose."

### Creditable

**"M**y son," said old mah Reddit, "Take this advice from me: The less you use your credit The better it will be."

### Children's Hour

**BBC Programmes from Wednesday, October 8, to Tuesday, October 14.**

**WEDNESDAY, 5.0** Frightfulness at the Theatre Royal. 5.30 Songs. Welsh, 5.0 The Green Sailing Boat—a story; Putting Wales on the Map. West, 5.30 Songs. North, 5.30 Future Programmes; Books.

**THURSDAY, 5.0** First Day Feature—Kennel Maid. Swallows and Amazons (Part 1). Scottish, 5.40 X Marks the Spot—a talk. Welsh, 5.30 Junior Radio Record.

**FRIDAY, 5.0** Nicholas Thomas gets into Trouble (Part 2). Scottish, 5.0 Round the Country-side. 5.30 Magazine.

**SATURDAY, 5.0** Serenade for Children. 5.40 Visitors to the Croft—a talk. Midland, 5.0 Midland Magazine; Albert Webb and his Players; A Narrow Squeak—a story. West, 5.0 Silverster's Red Letter Day—a story. 5.10 The Mystery of the Lone Scout. North, 5.0 Variety.

**SUNDAY, 5.0** John Halifax, Gentleman (Part 2).

**MONDAY, 5.0** Alice in Wonderland (Part 4); Records. 5.40 Going to the Pictures. Northern Ireland, 5.30 Old Rainy—a story; Orchestra.

**TUESDAY, 5.0** Songs; The First Elephant Boy; Dancing Round Europe. 5.40 Accra—a talk. Northern Ireland, 5.20 Humour in Music (Part 3) West, 5.40 A discussion on Soccer. Scottish, 5.15 Children's Choice—Stories, Poetry, and Music; A competition.

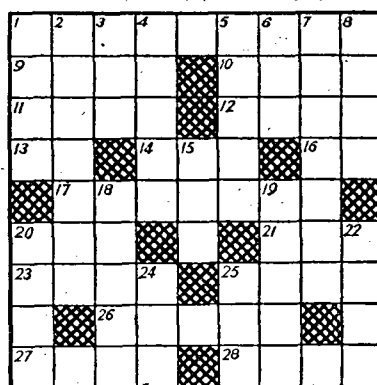
## Cross Word Puzzle

**Reading Across.** 1 Industrious character. 9 A portent. 10 Light in movement. 11 Part of a bridge. 12 Mirth. 13 Edvardus Rex (abbrev). 14 A slippery creature. 16 A Roman copper coin. 17 Ardent. 20 A venomous serpent. 21 A seed-vessel. 23 Russia's former ruler. 25 State of combustion. 26 The mountain ash. 27 A particle of dust. 28 A small wooded valley.

**Reading Down.** 1 Small quantity of medicine. 2 To stamp a design on something. 3 A tract of grassland. 4 Interior. 5 Large bird of prey. 6 Nothing. 7 An originator. 8 Watches with fixed attention. 15 Termination. 18 Separately. 19 The backbone. 20 Tiny but mighty. 22 To distribute. 24 Mass of fish's eggs. 25 A pet notion.

Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, October 11, 1947



### LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

New Testament Characters

Andrew, Herod, Lois, Mark, Demas, Onesimus.

**Tongue Twister**  
Say this quickly six times:  
Grandiloquent grand elephant.

QUALITY

FLAVOUR

**BERMALINE BREAD**  
*is Baked*  
BY APPOINTED BAKERS

PURITY

DIGESTIBILITY

## BIG CN PAINTING TEST

Three Prizes of £5 5s, and Other Awards

**T**HE CN presents this week a great new Autumn-Term competition for young artists. Beginning in this issue, and for the next two weeks, we are printing three subjects from which competitors are invited to make their choice, redraw on a larger sheet of paper, canvas, or board, and then colour in their own style to make effective paintings.

The first subject, a Flower Study, appears here. Readers may enter pictures of one, two or all three subjects, and for the best painting of each subject a First Prize of FIVE GUINEAS will be awarded, allowance being made for age.

There will also be TWENTY Consolation Prizes, with choice of £2 2s Drawing Set or a £2 2s Box of Artists' Colours. (Two consolation prizes will be awarded for the next best pictures in each age class from 7 to 16.)

Do not colour the outline here, but copy the picture quite freely in your own way and to your own size. Tracing is not allowed, nor is accurate copying required; and, if desired, further detail may be added to the finished pictures.

Water colours, poster-colours, or oils may be used. When sent in each attempt must have a token (as below) affixed; it must also bear the entrant's full name, address, and age, on the back, and must be signed by parent, guardian, or teacher certifying it as the entrant's own work. Finished entries (when packed, not to exceed 24" by 18") should be posted to:

CN AUTUMN PAINTING TEST,  
Room 171, The Fleetway House,  
London, E.C.4 (Comp).

Closing date: Monday, December 1, 1947.

Entrants who want their pictures



returned should enclose a stamped, addressed label.

The prizes will be awarded in order of merit by the Editor, who will be assisted by a committee of art teachers. Full allowance will be made for age.

Open to all readers aged 7 to 16, inclusive; no competitor may win more than one prize. The Editor's decision will be final and binding. Children of CN employees or contributors may not compete. No responsibility can be taken for loss or damage in transit.

### HEALTH IS NATIONAL INSURANCE

and with our Youth Organisations we are doing our utmost to build up our boys and girls for the place they must take later as responsible citizens. Will you please help us? We sorely need your aid. Address: The Rev. RONALD F. W. BOLLOM, Supt., THE EAST END MISSION (Founded 1885), Bromley Street, Commercial Road, Stepney, E.1.

### BARGAINS IN STAMPS

Here are some more special offers of stamp packets at bargain prices. This is a great opportunity to fill up those spaces in your collection.

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12 different KENYA ... 1/6  
10 different NICARAGUA ... 1/-  
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### HAVE YOU READ

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A magazine for all who are interested in the country and in wild life of the countryside?

If not, send 9d. for a copy to

**L.A.C.S.,**

58 Maddox Street, London, W.1.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS**  
Tavistock House North, Tavistock Square, W.C.1.



### MERRY CHRISTMAS

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